

Judge Kolar Kottely c/o Renata Hesse Trial Attorney U.S. Department of Justice - Antitrust Division 601 D Street NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20530

Dear Judge Kottely,

Here in lowa, like much of the nation, we are facing some difficult times. The economy is stagnant, countless jobs are being lost, and there is no one clear answer to fix all our problems. A recovery will take time, patience and sound judgment. One event that will undoubtedly help the economy is the Microsoft settlement. This agreement builds new relations with Microsoft and the computer makers; it is fair to all parties and our economy will benefit from it.

As far back as the 1980s, Microsoft was an integral part of this country's economic expansion. The arrival of Microsoft did many things; it created jobs, produced an abundant number of businesses and companies, and a great deal of wealth and capital was made available to people. By choking Microsoft with harassing legal proceedings, a recovery from the current recession was made all the more impossible. This recent settlement, however, was a step in the right direction for our economy and the millions of Americans who depend on a healthy economy to support their families.

This is a challenging time for our nation. It was the right thing to do when the Justice Department and the nine states settled the Microsoft case. I strongly support that, and believe it will help our economy rebound.

Your consideration is very much appreciated.

Sincerely

Story County Treasurer